

S/N 09/509,449

PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	AOYAGI ET AL.	Examiner:	D. WORTMAN
Serial No.:	09/509,449	Group Art Unit:	1648
Filed:	MARCH 28, 2000	Docket No.:	594.352USWO
Title:	METHOD FOR MEASUREMENT OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D. C. 20231, Technology Center 1600, on April 22, 2002.

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSEVIA FACSIMILE

TC1600
703-872-9306

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 27, 2001, and the Communication mailed April 8, 2002, please amend the above-referenced application for patent as follows:

In the claims

Please cancel claims 1-7 and add new claims 8-17 to read as set forth below:

8. (New) A method for determining the presence of HCV antigens and/or anti-HCV antibodies in a sample, at the same time, in the same reaction vessel, comprising the steps of:

- a. contacting the sample with a molecule that binds specifically to HCV antigen to capture HCV antigen and with a peptide that binds specifically to anti-HCV antibodies to capture anti-HCV antibodies; and
- b. detecting captured HCV antigens and/or captured anti-HCV antibodies.